

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12 are pending the above-identified application.

Claim Amendments

Claim 10 is cancelled and the limitations thereof added to claim 1. The pendency of claim 11 is amended accordingly. No new matter is added by this amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter of claims 10 and 11. In response, the limitations of claim 10 are added to claim 1. In view of this amendment, all pending claims are believed to be directed to allowable subject matter.

Rejection under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 1-9 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto '869.

In response, non-rejected claim 10 is cancelled and the limitations thereof added to claim 1. In view of this amendment, the rejection is believed moot and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early indication of same earnestly is solicited.

If any issues remain regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868), in the Washington Metropolitan Area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: **APR 26 2006**

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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